

(Pub. L. 96-489, § 12, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2554.)

#### **§ 1512. Reservation of right to amend or repeal chapter**

The right to alter, amend, or repeal this chapter is expressly reserved to the Congress.

(Pub. L. 96-489, § 13, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2555.)

#### **§ 1513. “State” defined**

For purposes of this chapter, the term “State” includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories and possessions of the United States.

(Pub. L. 96-489, § 14, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2555.)

#### **§ 1514. Tax-exempt status**

The corporation shall retain its status as an organization exempt from taxation as provided in title 26. If the corporation fails to retain such status, the charter granted hereby shall expire.

(Pub. L. 96-489, § 15, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2555.)

### **CHAPTER 48—GOLD STAR WIVES OF AMERICA**

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#### **§ 1601. Recognition as corporation and grant of Federal charter**

Gold Star Wives of America, a corporation organized and operating under the laws of the State of New York, is hereby recognized as such and granted a Federal charter.

(Pub. L. 96-497, § 1, Dec. 4, 1980, 94 Stat. 2595.)

#### **§ 1602. Powers of corporation**

Gold Star Wives of America (hereinafter referred to as the “corporation”) shall have only those powers granted to it through its bylaws and articles of incorporation filed in the State in which it is incorporated.

(Pub. L. 96-497, § 2, Dec. 4, 1980, 94 Stat. 2595.)

#### **§ 1603. Objects and purposes of corporation**

The objects and purposes of the corporation shall be, solely, that it is—

- (a) organized and operated in the public interest, as a nonpartisan and nonprofit organization, with terms of membership and require-

ments for holding office within the organization which does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin;

- (b) organized and operated solely for patriotic, charitable, literary, educational, scientific, or civic improvement purposes; and

- (c) organized for those purposes stated in its articles of incorporation which are not inconsistent with any of the foregoing objects and purposes.

(Pub. L. 96-497, § 3, Dec. 4, 1980, 94 Stat. 2595.)

#### **§ 1604. Service of process**

With respect to service of process, the corporation shall comply with the laws of the States in which it is incorporated and those States in which it carries on its activities in furtherance of its corporate purposes.

(Pub. L. 96-497, § 4, Dec. 4, 1980, 94 Stat. 2595.)

#### **§ 1605. Membership**

Eligibility for membership in the corporation and the rights and privileges of members shall, except as provided in this chapter, be as provided in the articles of incorporation and the bylaws of the corporation.

(Pub. L. 96-497, § 5, Dec. 4, 1980, 94 Stat. 2595.)

#### **§ 1606. Board of directors**

The board of directors of the corporation and the responsibilities thereof shall be as provided in the articles of incorporation of the corporation and in conformity with the laws of the State or States where incorporated.

(Pub. L. 96-497, § 6, Dec. 4, 1980, 94 Stat. 2596.)

#### **§ 1607. Officers**

The officers of the corporation and the election of such officers shall be as is provided in the articles of incorporation of the corporation and in conformity with the laws of the State or States where incorporated.

(Pub. L. 96-497, § 7, Dec. 4, 1980, 94 Stat. 2596.)

#### **§ 1608. Restrictions**

##### **(a) Distribution of income or assets to members**

No part of the income or assets of the corporation shall inure to any member, officer, or director of the corporation or be distributed to any such person during the life of this charter. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the payment of reasonable compensation to officers of the corporation or reimbursement for actual necessary expenses in amounts approved by the board of directors.

##### **(b) Loans**

The corporation shall not make any loan to any officer, director, or employee of the corporation.

##### **(c) Political activities**

The corporation and any officer and director of the corporation, acting as such officer or director, shall not contribute to, support or otherwise participate in any political activity or in any manner attempt to influence legislation.